APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/465,761	12/17/1999	KENICHI YAMAMOTO	1614.1020	9287

21171 7590 05/11/2004		EXAMINER
STAAS & HALSEY LLP		GURSHMAN, GRIGORY
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2132	

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DATE MAILED: 05/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _26 February 2004_ .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's amendments of claims 1-10 reflect mainly transmitting and receiving the "connection state" from the server to the user terminal. These amendments are addressed in the rejection herein.

2.   Introduction of new claims 11-20 by Applicant necessitates the new ground(s) of rejection presented in the instant Office Action.

3.   Referring to claims 1-12, Applicant argues that neither Takagi nor IBM discloses or suggests the session managing part, which manages the session and provides information to the user terminal according to the connection state. Examiner respectfully disagrees with this assessment of prior art of record. Examiner points out that Takagi teaches that in response to a request from the user authentication unit 79, according to the user name authenticated at the step S801, the user related information for the authenticated user are initialized by the network service server 100. IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (hereinafter IBM) teaches that the server uses the password (i.e. connection state) to authenticate the user and establish (i.e manage) the session (see disclosure text page 2). Examiner maintains that One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to manage session information using the connection state of the user terminal information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM for eliminating the need to repeatedly lookup the passwords in the registry (see IBM page 2, 3d paragraph).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1 -12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Takagi (U.S. Patent No. 5.881.231) in view of IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin

(volume 38, January 1, 1995).

6.   Referring to the instant claims, Takagi discloses information processing system

using information caching based on user activity (see abstract and Fig. 1).

7.   Takagi teaches that in response to a request from the user authentication unit 79,

according to the user name authenticated at the step S801, the user related information

for the authenticated user are initialized by the network service server 100. For

example, when the utilization prediction knowledge relevant for the authenticated user is

present only in the second information storage unit 95 and not in the network service

server 100, the information positioning unit 104 is controlled to transfer this utilization

prediction knowledge to the network service server 100, and set it as the utilization

prediction knowledge 107 to be used in the subsequent prediction. Note here that,

although not shown in FIG. 21, there can be various possible processing that can be

carried out in a case where the access from the terminal 70 to the network service

server 100 is not possible. As an exemplary processing in such a case, it is possible for

the user authentication unit 79 to urge the user to make the network connection, and

carry out the processing of this step S802 at a time the connection is made (see Figs.

20-22).

8.   The "user terminal" is met by terminal 10 (in Fig.1) and the "server, which is

connected to the user terminal via network" is met by server 40 connected to the user

terminal via network 30 (see Fig.1). The limitation "connection state transmitting part

connection state of the use terminal" is met by terminal utilization status/environment

unit (21 in Fig.1) connected to information server (40 in Fig. 1) through communication

unit (23) over network (31). The limitation "...providing part to provide the connections

state transmitting part to the user terminal along with information to fulfill request of the

user terminal..." is met by terminal location info providing unit (51 in Fig. 51) coupled to

terminal (10) and to the information server (40).

Takagi teaches that in response to a request from the user authentication unit 79,

according to the user name authenticated at the step S801, the user related information

for the authenticated user are initialized by the network service server 100. While

Takagi shows user authentication unit (19 in Fig. 10), he does not explicitly teach   .

managing session information so that a session between the server and the user

terminal is established when the session management part receives the connection

state of the user.

9.   IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin (hereinafter IBM) teaches that the server uses the

password (i.e. connection state) to authenticate the user and establish the session (see

disclosure text page 2). Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to manage session information using the

connection state of the user terminal information of Takagi so that a session between

the server and the user terminal is managed when the user's connection state is

accepted by the server as taught in IBM. One of ordinary skill in the art would have

been motivated to manage session information using the connection state of the user

terminal information so that a session between the server and the user terminal is

managed when the user's connection state is accepted by the server as taught in IBM

for eliminating the need to repeatedly lookup the passwords in the registry (see IBM

page 2, 3d paragraph).

10.   Referring to claims 9 and 10, Takagi teaches confirming notification in the

predetermined period by recording the knowledge concerning an activity scheduled by

the user (see abstract).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

11.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use
> or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

12.   Claims 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shi

(U.S. Patent No.5.875.296).

13. Referring to the instant claims, Shi discloses a method of authenticating a Web

client to a Web server connectable to a distributed file system of a distributed computing

environment (see abstract).

Shi teaches that the distributed computing environment includes a security service for

returning a credential to a user authenticated to access the distributed file system. In

response to receipt by the Web server of a user id and password from the Web client, a

login protocol is executed with the security service. If the user can be authenticated, a

credential is stored in a database of credentials associated with authenticated users.

The Web server then returns to the Web client a persistent client state object having a

unique identifier therein. This object, sometimes referred to as a cookie, is then used to

enable the Web client to browse Web documents in the distributed file system. In

particular, when the Web client desires to make a subsequent request to the distributed

file system, the persistent client state object including the identifier is used in lieu of the

user's id and password, which makes the session much more secure. In this operation,

the cookie identifier is used as a pointer into the credential storage table, and the

credential is then retrieved and used to facilitate multiple file access from the distributed

file system (see abstract).

The limitation "receiving a user ID and a password from a user and authenticating a

user" is met by receiving by the Web server of a user id and password from the Web

client and executing a login protocol with the security service (see column 2, lines 65-

70). The limitation "transmitting the session ID and a monitoring applet to the

authenticated user's client " is met by the Web server, which returns to the Web client a

persistent client state object having a unique identifier therein (see column 3, lines 3- 8).

Referring to the limitation "releasing the session ID when it is determined that the user's

client is no longer accessing the server" She does not teach keeping the session ID

upon the completion of the session. Therefore this limitation is met by She.

Conclusion

14.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (703) 306-2900. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (703) 305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2100 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Grigory Gurshman
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

GG

GILBERTO BARRON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100